In re Patent Application of:
CHAPMAN ET AL.
Serial No. 10/617,065
Filing Date: **JULY 10, 2003**
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In the Claims:

     1. (Original) A method for distributing a public information release authorization (PIRA) form over an intranet, the method comprising:

     creating and submitting a PIRA form over the intranet, the PIRA form being submitted by an author to at least one approver via e-mail with a hyperlink to the PIRA form; and

     transmitting comments for the PIRA form by the at least one approver via e-mail.

     2. (Original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the intranet includes a plurality of users enrolled therein with each user having associated personnel information stored within the intranet, the method further comprising:

     selecting a first level of approvers from among the plurality of users for reviewing the PIRA form; and

     transmitting a first notification message via e-mail to the first level of approvers, the first notification message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

     3. (Original) A method according to Claim 2 wherein the first level of approvers comprises at least one of a manager, a program manager and a technical peer reviewer.

     4. (Original) A method according to Claim 2 wherein the first level of approvers is selected by the author.

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5.   (Original) A method according to Claim 2 further comprising creating a profile of the PIRA form in response to accessing associated personnel information of the author; and wherein at least one of the first level of approvers is selected based upon the created profile.

6.   (Original) A method according to Claim 2 wherein the first level of approvers reviews the PIRA form concurrently.

7.   (Original) A method according to Claim 2 further comprising:
selecting a second level of approvers from among the plurality of users for reviewing the PIRA form; and
transmitting a second notification message via e-mail to the second level of approvers, the second notification message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

8.   (Original) A method according to Claim 7 wherein the second level of approvers comprises at least one of a security administrator, a system administrator, a contracts administrator, a communications administrator, an export/import administrator and a legal administrator.

9.   (Original) A method according to Claim 7 wherein the second level of approvers is selected by a system administrator.

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10.   (Original) A method according to Claim 7 wherein
each of the second level of approvers reviews the PIRA form
sequentially.

11.   (Original) A method according to Claim 10 further
comprising stopping approval of the PIRA when one of the second
level of approvers rejects the PIRA form.

12.   (Original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein
the creating comprises including an attachment to the PIRA form.

13.   (Previously Presented) An intranet for
distributing a public information release authorization (PIRA)
form comprising:
        at least one server for implementing the PIRA process;
        a first user computer cooperating with said at least
one server for creating and submitting a PIRA form over the
intranet, the PIRA form being submitted by an author to at least
one approver via e-mail with a hyperlink to the PIRA form; and
        a second user computer cooperating with said at least
one server for transmitting comments of the PIRA form by the at
least one approver via e-mail.

14.   (Previously Presented) An intranet according to
Claim 13 wherein a plurality of users is enrolled in the
intranet, with each user having associated personnel information
stored within said at least one server, said first user computer

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further cooperating with said at least one server for performing
the following:

    selecting a first level of approvers from among the
plurality of users for reviewing the PIRA form; and

    transmitting a first notification message via e-mail to
the first level of approvers, the first notification message
having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

    15. (Original) An intranet according to Claim 13
wherein the first level of approvers comprises at least one of a
manager, a program manager and a technical peer reviewer.

    16. (Original) An intranet according to Claim 13
wherein the first level of approvers is selected by the author.

    17. (Previously Presented) An intranet according to
Claim 14 wherein said first user computer further cooperates with
said at least one server for creating a profile of the PIRA form
in response to accessing associated personnel information of the
author; and wherein at least one of the first level of approvers
is selected based upon the created profile.

    18. (Original) An intranet according to Claim 13
wherein the first level of approvers reviews the PIRA form
concurrently.

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19. (Previously Presented) An intranet according to Claim 14 wherein said first user computer further cooperates with said at least one server for performing the following:

selecting a second level of approvers from among the plurality of users for reviewing the PIRA form; and

transmitting a second notification message via e-mail to the second level of approvers, the second notification message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

20. (Original) An intranet according to Claim 19 wherein the second level of approvers comprises at least one of a security administrator, a system administrator, a contracts administrator, a communications administrator, an export/import administrator and a legal administrator.

21. (Original) An intranet according to Claim 19 wherein the second level of approvers is selected by a system administrator.

22. (Original) An intranet according to Claim 19 wherein each of the second level of approvers reviews the PIRA form sequentially.

23. (Previously Presented) An intranet according to Claim 19 wherein said first user computer further cooperates with said at least one server for stopping approval of the PIRA when one of the second level of approvers rejects the PIRA form.

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24. (Previously Presented) An intranet according to Claim 13 wherein creating and submitting the PIRA form comprises including an attachment to the PIRA form.

25. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for causing user computers coupled to at least one server and defining an intranet therewith to perform steps comprising:

creating and submitting a public information release authorization (PIRA) form over the intranet using a first one of the user computers cooperating with the at least one server, the PIRA form being submitted by an author to at least one approver via e-mail with a hyperlink to the PIRA form; and

transmitting comments for the PIRA form by the at least one approver via e-mail using a second one of the user computers cooperating with the at least one server.

26. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 25 wherein the intranet includes a plurality of users enrolled therein with each user having associated personnel information stored within the intranet, the computer-readable medium further having computer-executable instructions for causing the first one of the user computers to perform the following steps:

selecting a first level of approvers from among the plurality of users for reviewing the PIRA form; and

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transmitting a first notification message via e-mail to the first level of approvers, the first notification message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

27.   (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 25 wherein the first level of approvers comprises at least one of a manager, a program manager and a technical peer reviewer.

28. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 25 wherein the first level of approvers is selected by the author.

29. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 26 further having computer-executable instructions for causing the first one of the user computers to create a profile of the PIRA form in response to accessing associated personnel information of the author; and wherein at least one of the first level of approvers is selected based upon the created profile.

30.   (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 25 wherein the first level of approvers reviews the PIRA form concurrently.

31.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 26 further having computer-executable

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instructions for causing the first one of the user computers to
perform the following steps:

      selecting a second level of approvers from among the
plurality of users for reviewing the PIRA form; and

      transmitting a second notification message via e-mail
to the second level of approvers, the second notification message
having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

      32.   (Original) A computer-readable medium according to
Claim 31 wherein the second level of approvers comprises at least
one of a security administrator, a system administrator, a
contracts administrator, a communications administrator, an
export/import administrator and a legal administrator.

      33.   (Original) A computer-readable medium according to
Claim 31 wherein the second level of approvers is selected by a
system administrator.

      34.   (Original) A computer-readable medium according
to Claim 31 wherein each of the second level of approvers review
the PIRA form sequentially.

      35.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium
according to Claim 31 further having computer-executable
instructions for causing the first one of the user computers to
stop approval of the PIRA when one of the second level of
approvers rejects the PIRA form.

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36.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 25 wherein creating and submitting the PIRA form comprises including an attachment to the PIRA form.

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